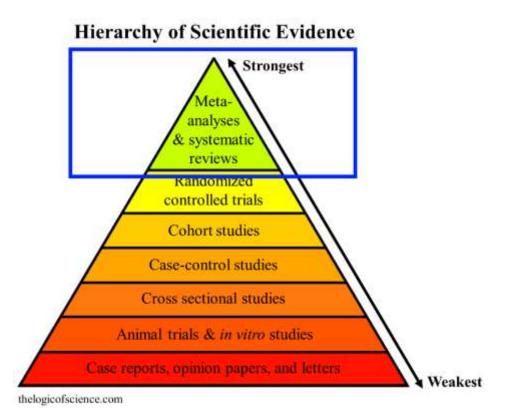


Covid-19 in Workers' Compensation

SPENCER FRENCH, RN, MSN, CCM
VP OF CASE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY
ORCHARD MEDICAL CONSULTING

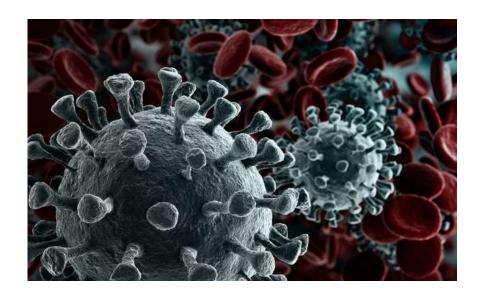
Hierarchy of Scientific Evidence





Covid-19

- Respiratory illness
- Spreads from person to person.
- Started in Wuhan, China
- First case in US reported on January 21st, 2020 in WA State.
- ► As of 7/23/20:
 - ▶ Infected:
 - Deaths:
 - ▶ Recovered:





How Does Covid Spread?

- Close contact (within 6 feet)
- Respiratory Droplets
- Touching a Surface or Object
- Not contracted through the skin
- Close or Long Term Exposure





Clinical Manifestations

Most Common Symptoms:

▶ Fever: 99%

► Fatigue:70%

▶ Dry cough: 59%

▶ Loss of appetite: 40%

▶ Body aches: 35%

▶ Shortness of breath: 31%

► Mucus or phlegm: 27%

Severity:

► Mild/Asymptomatic: 80%

▶ Severe: 15%

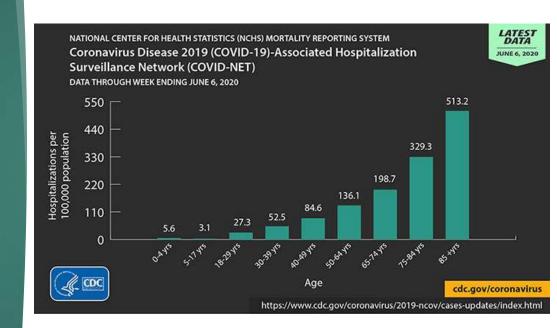
Critical: 5%





At-Risk

- Older Adults
- Pre-Existing Medical Conditions
- Racial & Ethic Minority Groups
- Pregnancy and Breastfeeding
- People with Disabilities





STRONGEST and MOST Consistent Evidence (Preexisting Conditions)

- Serious heart conditions such as heart failure, coronary artery disease or cardiomyopathies,
- Cancer
- Chronic Kidney Disease
- COPD
- Obesity (BMI>30)
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Solid OrganTransplantation
- Type 2 Diabetes





MIXED & LIMITED Evidence

(Preexisting Conditions)

► MIXED:

- Asthma
- Cerebrovascular disease
- Hypertension
- Pregnancy
- Smoking
- Use of corticosteroids or immunosuppressive medications

► LIMITED:

 BM Transplant, HIV Immune deficiencies, Metabolic disorders, Neuro disorders, Chronic lung disease, Pediatrics, Liver Disease, Type 1 Diabetes





Protect Yourself & Others

- Wash Hands Often
- Avoid Close Contact
- Cover Mouth and Nose
 - ▶ Cloth face Cover
 - ▶ When Around Others
- Cover Coughs and Sneezes
- Clean and Disinfect
- Monitor Health Daily





Face Masks





Testing

- Viral vs. Antibody Tests
- How to get tested?
- Who gets priority?
 - ► Those with Symptoms
 - Exposure Potential
 - First Responders/Healthcare Workers
 - Patients
 - Co-Morbidities





Emerging Treatment

- Supportive Care
- Antibiotics
- Remdesivir
- Dexamethasone
- Famatidine
- Alpha Blockers
- ▶ Other...
- **▶** Immunity





Post Covid...What Can We Expect?

- Unknown
- ▶ Poor Exercise Compacity
- Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
- Organs
 - ▶ Pulmonary
 - Cardiovascular
 - Kidneys
 - ▶ Nervous System
- Psychological Impact





Covid & Workers' Compensation

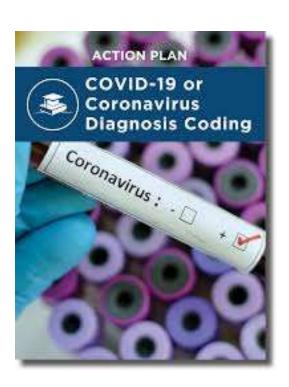
- ▶ ICD Codes
- Employer/Employee Considerations
- Re-Entry Criteria
- How Orchard Medical Consulting is helping in the Work Comp Industry.





ICD Codes

- U07.1 (COVID-19, virus identified, CDC adopted)
- U07.2 (COVID-19, virus not identified-probable or suspected, not CDC adopted);
 - COVID-19 for pneumonia (J12.89)
 - Acute bronchitis (J20.8)
 - Lower respiratory infection (J22)
 - ARDS (J80), and other related conditions. (CDC, 2020)





Employee/Employer Considerations

- ▶ Employees:
 - ▶ Notify Supervisor
 - ► Follow CDC Guidelines
 - ► Sick Family Member
 - ► At-Risk
 - ▶ Positive Test
- **▶** Employer:
 - Positive test vs Symptoms





RTW Criteria

 Symptomatic with suspected or confirmed Covid-19:

Asymptomatic with suspected or confirmed Covid-19:





RTW Criteria

- Symptomatic with suspected or confirmed Covid-19:
 - Symptom-based strategy
 - 3 days since fever & symptoms
 - 10 days since symptoms first appeared
 - Test-based strategy
 - Resolution of fever & improvement in symptoms
 - Negative testing results from 2 consecutive tests within 24 hours apart





RTW Criteria

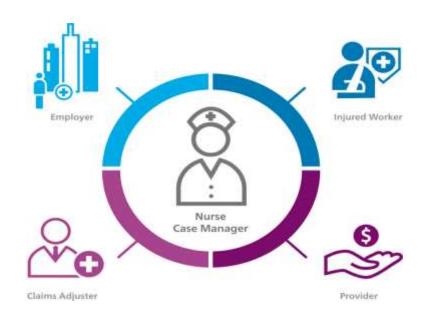
- Asymptomatic with confirmed Covid-19:
 - <u>Time-based strategy</u>
 - ▶ 10 days since + test
 - Remain Symptom Free
 - If symptoms developed then use symptom based strategy
 - Test-based strategy
 - Negative testing results from 2 consecutive tests within 24 hours apart





What are we doing?

- 1. Covid-19 File Review (Investigating)
- 2. Covid-19
 Symptom Tracking
 (Isolation & RTW
 Tracking)
- 3. Covid-19 Inpatient Case Management





Covid-19 File Review (Investigation)

CDC Person Under Investigation & Case Report Form

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Covid-19 File Review (Investigation)

File Review
Report
(Summary of Findings)





Covid-19 Symptom Tracking (Isolation and RTW Tracking)

- Known Exposure,
 Asymptomatic
- Known Exposure,Symptomatic
- 3. Known Positive
- 4. Symptomatic, Positive Test





Injured Workers
Experiences &
Adjuster
Feedback

In Real Life



Covid-19 Inpatient Case Management

- Length of Stay
- ▶ Lung CT Findings
- Labs
- Ventilator
- Blood Gases
- Emerging Treatment
- ▶ Hospital Discharge





Employee Resources

- Local Resources
 - ► Food/Nutrition
 - ▶ Shelter/Housing
 - ▶ Healthcare
 - Addiction Help
 - Support Groups
- Grocery Delivery
- General Delivery & Errand Service
- Prescription
 Delivery





Costs (ODG Guidelines)

- Covid
 - **\$22,920-\$40,758**
- Covid with Psychosocial
 - **\$22,920-\$144,887**
- Covid with litigation
 - **\$22,920-\$135,643**
- ▶ Covid with ALL
 - **\$22,920-\$231,209**





Cost Savings

- Quick
 Turnaround time
 (File Review)
- 2. Contact/Support
- 3. Educate & Avoid Anxiety
- 4. Avoid Litigation
- 5. No Physician Visit
- 6. Lost time





THANK YOU

